

Revenue Sharing Boundary (Section 8(g) of Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act)

Description - Provided for states to claim an equitable share of revenues when a federal lease is within three miles of the territorial sea boundary. The amendments mandate that 27 percent of all revenues from production within three miles seaward of the federal/state boundary is to be given to the states.

Primary Agency – Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM)

Spatial Extent - State Seaward Boundary (SSB) plus three nautical miles.

Description - Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act. (U.S. Code 43 U.S.C. § 1337(g)).

Official Depiction – BOEM official protraction diagram. and supplemental official outer continental shelf block diagram.

Known Digital Data Source – On-line at <http://www.boem.gov/offshore/mapping/>

Notes - Although this boundary is complete for the Southeast Atlantic U.S., certain geographic areas are not completed.

Issues - Metadata and spatial data inconsistencies exist. Offshore boundary lines are measured along an arc over the earth's ellipsoidal surface (chord length); therefore, arc distance varies with latitude and azimuth corresponding to variations in the radius of the earth's surface. As a result, the arc length must be computed (in three-dimensional space) separately for each stretch of coastline, even though the projection distance remains unchanged (Ball 1997). Many boundaries have been created using a buffer function in a geographic information system. This process does not take into account chord length or distortion due to projection and often may result in an inaccurate representation of the "envelope of arcs." Accordingly, the GIS boundary data may not accurately reflect the official or actual boundary.